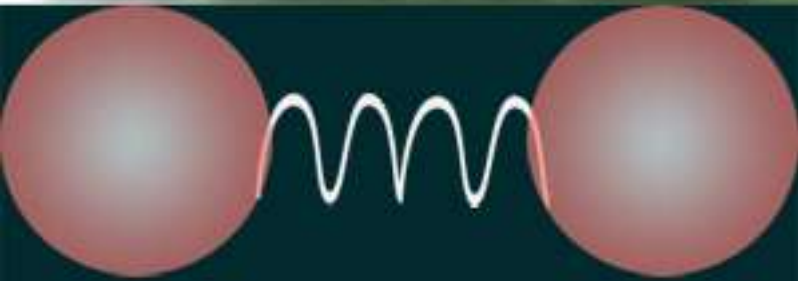
The Case For Man



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In memory of my father Hazrat Syed Hossain Ahmed (R.A.)

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Preface

For about 15 years I have been pondering over the meaning of a verse of the Holy Quran. I was sure that some profound but very subtle matter is hidden in the core of this verse.

This verse is from Surah TaHA, the 20th chapter of the Holy Quran. It is related to the story of Musa (PBUH) and his enemy Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. Allah Ta'ala appointed Musa as a Prophet to guide mankind, especially his nation, the Banu Israil. Banu Israil was, at that period of time, slaves to the King Pharaoh. Allah wanted to free the Israelites from the slavery of Pharaoh. Now, When Musa became Prophet and

got his duty to preach Islam to Pharaoh and to free Israelites, he became little bit afraid of the things of the future. So, he requested Allah Ta'ala to give him an assistant, namely, Harun and appoint Harun also as a Prophet. Allah did appoint Harun as asked by Musa. The two brothers then are commissioned to give a lesson to Pharaoh. Allah gave Musa two signs. One is when he throws his walking stick, it immediately becomes a mighty snake. Another sign was when he put his hand within his armpit and pushed it out the hand glows beautifully. With these two heavenly signs, the two brother went to

Pharaoh. One day in the Pharaoh's court during the conversation Pharaoh asked Musa, O Musa, who is your lord. Musa (PBUH) replied in a very short phrase and conveyed the most profound act of Allah and by that way he introduced Allah to Pharaoh.

This is the verse with which I am engrossed for about 15 years. Some days ago, in one evening after Salatul I'sha, I was listening recitation of the Holy Quran and was engrossed with the tilawat. Suddenly, that verse appeared into my mind and a flash of understanding and wisdom entered

into my heart. I immediately got up and started writing this essay.

Yes, this is an essay but presented to you in the form of a booklet. The way I have presented the words may appear to you as strange, but learned persons will find it as usual. I wrote the booklet in the form of a dialogue between me, the author, and a reader named Khan. We talk about elementary particles and gradually rediscover the core of the verse I have pointed out in the previous paragraphs. The verse I am talking about is a lighthouse. It gives indication of what is our duty and in which way to

go. All inert beings are subject of this verse, but mankind is the main focus.

I have left room for the reader to ponder. So, my booklet is brief, but in my opinion, it is a treasure. I invite you to give some time in reading this booklet and internalize the meanings of the concepts presented here. You will surely be enlightened after you finish reading and pondering over the words of this book.

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December'2019

1

Form, Nature and Guidance

Dear reader, O Khan, I assume you are knowledgeable, logical, reasonable and truthful. Moreover, I assume you want to learn things that require deep thought.

So, I am going to engage with you in a dialogue that will convey my knowledge to you and either your ignorance will be revealed or your wisdom will enrich. So, let's set up for the dialogue.

Question: What are the building blocks of the Universe?

Your reply should be like this: The building blocks of the Universe are the galaxies.

Syed: If you say so, then you are right. But is it that a galaxy is a compact rigid body?

Khan: I am not sure.

Syed: Listen, the Universe is composed of roughly 500000000000 galaxies. Each galaxy contains roughly 100000000000 stars. So, the Universe is composed of roughly 50000000000000000000000 stars. Now, you are astonished, hah? Ok, the next question is this: What is a star?

Khan: A star is a big region of fire and the fire is produced by fusion of particles.

Syed: What are these particles exactly?

Khan: They are mainly atomic nuclei, electrons, protons, neutrons, mesons, neutrinos and anti-neutrinos and many kinds of mass-less particles like photons.

Syed: You are right. Now tell me whether an electron possesses a rigid body. Likewise proton, neutron and neutrino. Do all these possess a rigid body?

Khan: I am not sure. They may have some kind of physical form.

Syed: You are right. A brilliant reply indeed. Yes, all elementary particles possess a physical form the extent of which vary from particle to particle. Now, my next question is whether they have definite intrinsic properties. That is, do they possess some kind of nature?

Khan: Surely, every kind of elementary particle possesses a definite nature and that nature is different from one to another. Say, electron. It has mass of 9.1×10^{-31} kg and the Universe contains not a single electron that has not this mass. Further, every electron possesses

a spin angular momentum of, in a certain kind of unit, 1/2. And the Universe contains not a single electron that does not have this. On the other hand, a very common particle, the photon, has spin 1. And all photons of the Universe are particles of spin 1. And nature of elementary particles are determined by their intrinsic properties and the system of mechanics ordained upon them.

Syed: Excellent. You must be a physicist, hah!

Khan: I am not by profession a physicist, but I know some physics.

Syed: Ok, then you will understand my next words. All elementary particles of

the Universe fall in either one or the other category of two categories. Particles with spin 0, 1, 2, 3, ... , that is, those with integral spin fall in one category called boson. Particles with spin 1/2, 3/2, 5/2 ... ,that is, those with half odd integer spin fall in category called fermion. Nature of bosons and fermions are determined quantum mechanically by symmetry of their wave functions. Bosons are identical particles that follow Bose-Einstein statistics and fermions are governed by Fermi-Dirac statistics. Wave function of bosons is symmetric under exchange of their quantum states if there are two or more bosons of a kind in a system. Wave

function of fermions is anti-symmetric under exchange of their quantum states if there are two or more fermions of a kind in a system. Surprisingly enough, the Universe contains only bosons and fermions. And a particular type of elementary particle, be it a boson or a fermion, are all 100% identical. For example, not a single photon in the entire Universe possesses nonzero rest mass; all of them have zero rest mass and also all of them are of spin 1. Similarly, not a single electron in the entire Universe possesses mass other than 9.1×10^{-31} kg. This 100% identical intrinsic property and nature necessitates a mighty balance. Do you

understand? There is in this Universe an Al-Mighty Creator in Whose hand there is a mighty balance.

This balance does not err in giving by its measurement exactly 100% equal property. How many times this balance operate? For electrons and protons, it roughly works more than 10^{100} times and for photons it is beyond our quantification.

The Mighty Creator is the possessor of the mighty balance. There is not ever any doubt that this balance is an element of exact reality and the Mighty Creator definitely ensures 100% accuracy in HIs creation.

If you have understood this, then, I ask you another question. Why only bosons and fermions are there in the Universe?

Khan: I am not aware of this reason.

Syed: Then, know that fermions are the bricks that produced the material Universe and the bosons bind the bricks like cement does in an earthly building. Bosons are force carrying particles that help the fermions to interact to build the building. So, you have so far agreed to three things: (1) Creatures have form, (2) have nature and (3) have ways to be joined and to interact. The third fact

indicates that all creatures find guidance.

So far we have learned two main things. (1) A Creator with a mighty balance created all creatures and (2) the Creator provided His creatures with three things: (i) form, (ii) nature and (iii) guidance. Now, O Khan, do you know the name of this Creator?

Khan: I know. He is called by the Muslims by the name Allah. And He had had sent Prophets to guide mankind. Some Prophets had come with scriptures and some without. But all of them preached a single lesson which is - Man should worship Allah and Allah alone.

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is the last of this lineage of Prophets and the scripture he was provided by Allah with is called the Holy Quran. This book is still now intact in all respects.

Syed: O Khan, you are not ignorant. You said the truth. So, now I shall discuss those two things we have learned above. Does Allah possesses a mighty balance? The answer is found in the Holy Quran. In the 7th verse of the 55th Chapter of Holy Quran Allah said: " And the Sky has He raised high, and He has set up the (mighty) Balance."

How wonderful is the connection between our knowledge of science and

that of the scripture. He (Allah) has set up, that is, created and used a 100% accurate Balance to bestow His creatures form, nature and guidance with perfect justice. Now, a creature is a sum total of these three things: (1) Form, (2) Nature, and (3) Guidance. If a creature has these three things adequately then it can live its life in the world with comfort. Surprisingly, these three things are the subject matter of a verse of the Surah Ta Ha of the Holy quran. Allah said: "Pharaoh said:' Who then, O Musa, is the Lord of you two?" Musa said: "Our Lord is He Who gave to each thing its form and nature, then

guided it aright." (Chaper 20: Verses 49-50, Al-Quran).

What a profound similitude between our knowledge gained from science and wisdom and the proclamation of Musa, in other words, Allah's sayings. If one has form, nature and guidance, then it can live a comfortable life and Allah said He gave these three things to every creature. So, the ultimate reality is that He is the Creator, He is in charge of every affairs of the world. In that sense, there is none similar to Him. And we are instructed by Him to worship Him and Him alone.

2

The Case for Man

Man primarily is a biological entity. Its foundation is by chemicals and other physical elements. The brain controls a man's movement, thought, sensation, emotion and every knowable characteristics. Man also is a machine. That is externally man is a creature controlled by Physics. Inwardly, next, man is composed of biomolecules and are governed by chemistry and biochemistry. This is the form of Man. Moreover, this form of Man is prototype of the Universe. All the forces and elements of the world are present in Man, albeit, only a little.

The five senses, the brain and mind controls emotion of a man. These emotions may lead him to good or to bad. Man is endowed with many praiseworthy emotions and man do possesses many blameworthy natures. Man is different from other creatures by the abilities of man. Man can think, reason, recognize, reflect, appreciate, have consciousness, conscientious etc. With the faculties of man, man can be good or bad.

Allah created Man for a purpose. He wanted to see what a creature with the faculties He endowed man with do in worldly life. Does he go up in scale or drowns! Based upon man's actions, He

will reward man and will also reproach man if his record is filthy.

So far we have looked at the two primary elements of Man, namely, form and nature. What remains? Yes, guidance is the last piece of ingredients Man should have. The quoted verses in the previous chapter says Allah gave guidance to Man. Muhammad (PBUH) preached the religion of all time anew and he was provided with the Holy Quran. This religion is nothing but Islam, the religion of all Prophets.

3

Summary

The sum total of messages written in this short booklet are as follows:

I. Allah is the Creator and He created all the creatures by measuring precisely how much of which element will be given to one. He has set up a Balance, a mighty balance indeed, which never failed and will never fail to measure with 100% accuracy.

II. Allah gave each thing three characteristics: (1) Form, (2) Nature, and (3) Guidance.

III. Allah guided Man through Prophets with scriptures and Prophet's practices. Muhammad (PBUH) is the last Prophet upon whom the Holy Quran was revealed. His practices are termed as Sunnah. Our guidance is from these two sources. Quran and Sunnah, if obeyed and put into action, a man will surely find the right guidance.

IV. Man gets individual inspirations, too. We have not discussed it before. But now, O Khan, know that Allah directly gives inspiration to man. This is the

strongest inspiration. There comes also weaker inspirations from angels, from one's own mind, and also from the devil. Mental inspirations are weaker than angelic inspirations. The weakest inspirations are from devil. This is the reason for why we see more good than evil.

Man should worship Allah and Allah alone. Beg for anything to no one other than to Allah. And establish the balance of justice in the society.

END